

Apply now for a rebate

Water Smart Gardens and
Homes Rebate Scheme

1 July 2007 to 30 June 2009



The next stage of the Government's Water Plan

Our Water Our Future

A Victorian Government initiative



a message

from the Minister for Water,
Environment and Climate Change

The need to save water has never been greater. In 2006, we experienced the worst year of drought and lowest stream flows in our State's history.

The next stage of the Bracks Government's *Our Water Our Future* plan provides long-term solutions to secure our water supplies – by building a desalination plant, saving water through upgrading irrigation channels, expanding the Water Grid to pipe water around the State and extending conservation programs.

As part of this plan the Government has committed funding to continue the Water Smart Gardens and Homes Rebate Scheme for another four years.

These plans go hand in hand with building on our achievements in water saving.

Water saving must be a lifelong habit for each of us. With the ongoing challenge of drought and climate change, saving water in and around the home must be part of our every day behaviour.

Victorians are responding superbly to water scarcity. Since the launch of the Water Smart Gardens and Homes Rebate Scheme in January 2003 there has been an overwhelming response to help save water. Over 160,000 rebates have been claimed, helping Victorians save more than 1.4 billion litres of water each year.

The scheme encourages householders to claim a rebate on products such as water efficient showerheads, which can save up to 20,000 litres of water a year; and installing dual-flush toilets that can save over 35,000 litres a year for a family of four. Using water-saving products also helps to save money on water and energy bills.

The large rainwater tank rebates introduced in January 2007, also provide a greater incentive to install a rainwater tank and connect it to the toilet or laundry, thus maximising the benefits from the tank.

The products listed in this brochure provide an excellent way to continue water saving habits that last a lifetime.



The Hon John Thwaites, MP
Minister for Water, Environment and Climate Change

core offer

Only one each of the core product rebates can be claimed per eligible property, except showerheads (two rebates per property). The property must be a residential property and be connected to an urban reticulated water supply and have an account with a Victorian urban water supplier.

Permanent Greywater System

(limit 1 per property)

A permanent greywater system recycles waste water from laundries and bathrooms for use on the garden.

Rebate: \$500



- Must include suitable subsurface irrigation as part of the system.
- Greywater systems must be permanently installed at the property by a licensed plumber, provide overflow to sewer or septic tank and not store untreated greywater for more than 24 hours.
- A PIC certificate must be included with your rebate application.
- This greywater rebate is not available for blackwater or combined black/greywater systems.

Rebate: \$150



Hot Water Recirculator

(limit 1 per property)

A hot water recirculator is a device that saves cold water in the hot water pipes by diverting this cold water back into the hot water system or cold water plumbing. This reduces water wastage by allowing the water to be used within the home.

- Systems directing the cold water to rainwater tanks or storage for outdoor use are not eligible.
- This product must be installed by a licensed plumber and a PIC certificate may be required if product, plus plumbing costs, exceed \$500.

Rainwater Tanks – General Conditions

Rainwater tanks connected to new houses that received a building permit after 30 June 2005 are not eligible for a rebate.

Tank Rebate 1 (limit 1 per property)

Rebate: \$150

(Tank only)

For a rainwater tank for use outside your home (for tanks sized 600 litres or greater).



Rebate: \$150

(Tank to toilet connection)

For the connection of a rainwater tank to a toilet (new tanks sized 600 to 1,999 litres, existing tanks greater than 600 litres).



Rebate: \$300

For a rainwater tank that collects water for use outside the home and is connected to a toilet (for small tank only 600 to 1,999 litres).

Tank Rebate 1 Conditions

- Rainwater tank must be a minimum size of 600 litres which collects rainwater for use outside your home only.
- Connection of an existing tank to a toilet is also eligible for a \$150 rebate if connected by a licensed plumber.
- Tanks must be installed by a licensed plumber, and a PIC certificate included if product and associated plumbing installation costs exceed \$500.



Full terms and conditions are available at www.ourwater.vic.gov.au and on back of the Claim Form



Dual-Flush Toilet

(limit 1 per property)

For replacement of a single-flush or less water efficient dual-flush toilet.

- An eligible dual-flush toilet uses 3 litres of water on a half-flush, 6 litres or less on a full-flush.
- This product must be installed by a licensed plumber.
- This rebate is for a replacement toilet only. New houses not eligible.



Rebate from \$10

Water Efficient Showerhead

★★★ rated

(limit 2 per property)

A water efficient showerhead uses up to 30% less water and can be fitted to most showers. A ★★★ rated showerhead uses 9 litres of water or less per minute.

- Rebate: \$10 where cost of showerhead is greater than \$30 and less than \$100.
- Rebate: \$20 where cost of showerhead is \$100 or greater.



Rebate: \$50

Water Conservation Audit

(limit 1 per property)

A water conservation audit is a service to assess where a household can save water, quantify potential savings and recommend products and methods to help achieve the savings.

- More information visit www.ourwater.vic.gov.au

Large Tank Rebate 2 (limit 1 per property)

Rebate: \$500

Rainwater tank connected to toilet **OR** laundry (tank size 2,000 to 4,999 litres).

Rebate: \$900

Rainwater tank connected to toilet **OR** laundry (tank size 5,000 litres or greater).

Rebate: \$1,000

Rainwater tank connected to toilet **AND** laundry (tank size 5,000 litres or greater).

Large Tank Rebate 2 Conditions

- Rainwater tank must be purchased after 1 July 2007 and connections to toilet and/or laundry made at time of tank installation.
- Must be installed by a licensed plumber, and a PIC certificate to be included with application.
- Rebates for Large Tank Rebate 2 are available by electronic funds transfer or cheque.

basket offer

Rebate: \$30

A \$30 rebate is available on the purchase of one or more products with a COMBINED VALUE of \$100 or more. Only one basket offer rebate is available per eligible customer per calendar year.

Flow Control Devices



Flow control valves and tap flow restriction devices can be attached to or installed in your existing showerhead or tap outlet to reduce the amount of water flowing through it.

- Flow control valves must reduce flow to 9 litres per minute or less to be eligible. Includes pre-packaged sets of flow control valves.

Flow Interrupters for Toilets

The flow interrupter device for a toilet operates by stopping the flush as soon as the pressure on the flush button is released, thus reducing the time and amount of water used to flush the toilet.

Mulch

A garden insulator that retains water and includes organic and inorganic types of mulch.



Compost/Mulch Bin

A bin used to hold compost and/or mulch.



Wetting/Moisture Agent

Crystals or liquid that are mixed with soil to retain its water content.

Shower Timers

A device to alert a person how long they have been in the shower.



Moisture/Rain Sensor

A device attached to your garden auto sprinkler system to sense rain and/or soil moisture. It stops the system operating in wet or rainy conditions.

Rainwater Diverter

A device which diverts water from the downpipes of a house guttering system to be used on the garden or in a swimming pool.

Waterless Car Cleaning Products

These are products that are primarily for cleaning a vehicle but may also wax, polish and/or provide UV screening for vehicles without the addition of water.



Trigger Nozzle

A detachable device for your hose allowing you to release water only when necessary.

Drip Watering System/Weep Hose

Above-ground or subsurface porous hoses that weep or drip water along their length rather than spraying it into the air.

Garden Tap Timer

A device to turn taps on and off at specific times.



Temporary Greywater Diverter

A rubber hose for insertion in domestic waste pipes to divert greywater to the garden.

Conditions

Product Rebate Summary Conditions

Core offer

(limit 1 rebate per property, except for showerheads)

A Plumbing Industry Commission (PIC) certificate of compliance must be included with your rebate application if the total cost of the product and associated plumbing is greater than \$500.

Product	Rebate	Summary Conditions
Greywater permanent system	\$500	Must be installed by a licensed plumber and include suitable subsurface irrigation. Rebate application must include PIC certificate. Must be EPA compliant and have a council septic tank permit if required. This rebate is not available for blackwater or combined black/greywater systems.
Rainwater tank	\$150- \$1,000	Tank must be installed by a licensed plumber and tanks connected to new houses that receive the building permit for the house after 30 June 2005 are not eligible.
Tank to toilet connection	\$150	Connection must be made by a licensed plumber to a new small tank (600 to 1,999 litres) or existing tank (greater than 600 litres).
Dual-flush toilet	\$50	Must be installed by a licensed plumber. Must be a 6/3 litre flush or better and replace an existing less efficient toilet (eg single flush toilet or 9/4.5 litre dual-flush toilet). Rebate payable for cistern only or full toilet suite.
Water conservation audit (internal & external)	\$50	Must be conducted by a licensed plumber or other profession listed at www.ourwater.vic.gov.au
Hot water recirculator	\$150	Must be installed by a licensed plumber. Systems directing the cold water to rainwater tanks or storage for outdoor use are not eligible.
★★★ Water-efficient showerhead (limit 2 rebates per property)	\$10 \$20	if showerhead costs more than \$30 and less \$100. if showerhead costs more than \$100. Must be ★★★(3 star) rated or or better, using 9 litres of water or less per minute.

Basket offer

(limit 1 rebate per property per calendar year)

\$30 rebate when purchasing \$100 worth of goods or more

- Wetting/moisture agent • Organic or inorganic mulch
- Compost/mulch bin • Moisture/rain sensor
- Garden tap timer • Drip watering system/weep hose
- Trigger nozzle • Temporary greywater diverter
- Shower timers • Waterless car cleaners
- Rainwater diverters • Toilet flush interrupter device
- Flow control valve (must reduce flow to 9 litres per minute or less)

Full terms and conditions are available at www.ourwater.vic.gov.au and on back of the Claim Form

Need to know?

Who is eligible to claim a rebate?

Residential customers whose property is connected to an urban reticulated water supply and who have an account with a Victorian urban water supplier.

How do I get a rebate?

- by applying to your water supplier on an application form that is available on the Our Water Our Future website www.ourwater.vic.gov.au
- or by calling the Department of Sustainability and Environment customer service centre on 136 186
- or by getting a form from your local hardware, plumbing supplies, garden retailer or local water authority.



When do I need to use a plumber?

A licensed plumber must install all rainwater tanks, permanent greywater systems, dual-flush toilets and cisterns, hot water recirculators and tank to toilet connections. Where required, a PIC certificate must be supplied. See terms and conditions for details.

What is a PIC certificate?

A PIC certificate is a Plumbing Industry Commission (PIC) certificate of compliance that is supplied by a licensed plumber. A PIC certificate must be included with your rebate application if the total cost of the product and associated plumbing is greater than \$500.

Ask your plumber to supply you with a PIC certificate on completion of works. For more information visit www.pic.vic.gov.au.

What is the large tank rebate?

New rebates between \$500 and \$1,000 were introduced on 1 January 2007 for large rainwater tanks that have at least 2,000 litres capacity and are connected to the toilet and/or laundry. These are referred to as Large Tank Rebate 2.

Can I still get a rebate if I buy a tank but don't connect it to my toilet or laundry?

Yes, the \$150 rebate for tanks 600 litres and greater, not connected for indoor use will still apply.

If I have already claimed a \$150 tank rebate, can I still claim a Large Tank Rebate 2?

Yes, if you purchase a new tank (2,000 litres or more) and connect it to your toilet and/or laundry. See terms and conditions.

Can I claim a rebate for connecting an existing rainwater tank to my toilet?

Yes, you are eligible for the \$150 tank to toilet connection rebate when connecting an existing rainwater tank to the toilet.

Do I need to attach my receipt and proof of installation to my rebate application?

Yes. The original product receipt(s), plumber's receipt and PIC certificate (where required) must be submitted with the application form. Check the claim form for details.

When does the product need to be purchased and installed?

To be eligible for the rebates contained in this brochure you must have purchased and installed your products after 1 July 2007.

Applications for all rebates must be submitted by 30 September 2009.

Products purchased prior to 1 July 2007 are still eligible for the rebates set out in the terms and conditions in operation prior to 30 June 2007. Application for these rebates must be lodged by 30 September 2007.

How will my rebate be paid?

The rebate for most products will be provided to you as a credit on your next water bill(s). For rebates for the Large Tank Rebate 2 (\$500 to \$1,000) and the Permanent Greywater System (\$500) where the rebate is \$500 or more, payment may be requested by cheque or Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) by filling in the relevant details on the claim form. These payments may take around 10-12 weeks to process.

How many rebates can I claim?

You can claim one rebate for each Core Product over the life of the scheme for each eligible property that you receive a water bill for (except for showerheads where two rebates can be claimed). For the basket of goods you can claim one rebate per calendar year for each eligible property.

Terms and conditions apply and can be found on the back of the claim form.

Look for this icon
when you shop



For more information about the Water Smart
Gardens and Homes Rebate Scheme:

- call the Department of Sustainability and Environment
customer service centre on **136 186**
- visit the *Our Water Our Future* website
at **www.ourwater.vic.gov.au**
- contact your local water business
- ask a water saving product retailer

For more information about the Water Efficient
Labelling and Standards Scheme
visit www.waterrating.gov.au

For more information about the ★★★★★(5 Star) rating
for new homes visit www.buildingcommission.com.au

For more information about PIC certificates
visit www.pic.vic.gov.au

Full terms and conditions are on the back of the rebate claim
form, which is available from the DSE customer service centre,
your local water business, product retailers or the website:
www.ourwater.vic.gov.au

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For more information contact the DSE Customer Service Centre 136 186

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